Message Text

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WH FOR OSTP

DEPT FOR OES ASSISTANT SECRETARY MINK, CRAWFORD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO TGEN

SUBJ: NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE: TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

REFS: A. USNATO 658, B. ASG.SEA((77))036, C. USNATO 1315,

D. STATE 56684

SUMMARY: THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE IS PLANNING TO MARK ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY WITH A COMMEMORATIVE CONFERENCE IN SPRING 1978. ASYG OZDAS HAS REQUESTED US SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE AND WE BELIEVE ENHANCED NATO AND WESTERN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WOULD FLOW FROM US ENDORSEMENT OF THE WORK OF THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMEMORATION OF ITS ANNIVERSARY. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO INCLUDING IN THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT THE MAY 10 SUMMIT A REFERENCE TO THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE, WHOSE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY WILL BE CELEBRATED IN 1978; AND (B) THAT THE DEPT COORDINATE US CONTRUBUTIONS TO PLANNING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. BASED ON THE DECISION OF THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITS FEBRUARY 3-4 MEETING (REF A), PLANNING FOR A TWO AND ONE-HALF DAY CONFERENCE TO COMMEMORATE THE COMMITTEE'S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY IN SPRING 1978 HAS BEGUN. ASYG OZDAS PROPOSED (REF B) THAT THE CONFERENCE EXAMINE, THROUGH COMMISSIONED PAPERS, SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS IN SELECTED BROAD DISCIPLINARY FIELDS AS WELL AS CONSIDER BROADER POLICY ISSUES DEALING WITH THE INTERACTION OF SCIENCE AND SOCIETY. CONFEREES WOULD BE ASKED TO EXPLORE ALTERNATE FUTURES TWENTY YEARS AHEAD. DURING THE LAST ONE-HALF DAY OF THE CONFERENCE, PRESENTATIONS

WOULD BE MADE TO A "POLITICAL" AUGIENCE, PERHAPS THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, ON THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF DEBATE.

2. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF OF THE SCIENCE DIVISION
BELIEVES, AND WE AGREE, THAT THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATION HAS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE. OZDAS ALSO
MAKES THE COGENT POINT THAT THE MAY 10 SUMMIT MEETING OF
THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN LONDON OFFERS AN EXCELLENT
PLACE FOR A US STATEMENT WHICH CITES THE IMPORTANCE OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ACHIEVING ALLIANCE GOALS AND
WHICH URGES SUPPORT OF THE ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCIENCE
COMMITTEE, NOBEL LAUREATE I. RABI, HAS WRITTEN TO NSC
CHAIRMAN BRZEZINSKI SUGGESTING THAT THE US MAKE SUCH A
STATEMENT AT THE NATO SUMMIT. WE SUGGEST THAT THE
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS MIGHT INCLUDE A STATEMENT ALONG THE FOLLOWING
LINES:

BEGIN TEXT:

THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE IN SHAPING WESTERN SOCIETY AND ITS FUTURE. NEXT YEAR MARKS THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE. WE HOPE THAT THE ALLIANCE, IN COMMEMORATING THAT EVENT, WILL UNDERSCORE HOW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP US BUILD A MORE COOPERATIVE AND HUMANE INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE IN AN AGE OF INCREASING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLEXITY AND INTERDEPENDENCE. END TEXT.

- 3. THE NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF WOULD ALSO WELCOME DETAILED US SUGGESTIONS ON HOW BEST TO CELEBRATE THE COMMITTEE'S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY. WE THUS RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT, AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES, FORM A TASK FORCE TO ASSIST BOTH IN PLANNING THE CONFERENCE AND IN CONSIDERING FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THE NATO SCIENCE PROGRAM. WE WILL PROVIDE, IN DUE COURSE, FURTHER MISSION VIEWS KEYED TO PROPOSALS EMERGING FROM THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF. BUT WE BELIEVE WASHINGTON SHOULD BEGIN TO CONSIDER NOW HOW TO PROP THE SAGGING BUDGET OF THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE, WHOSE ALLOCATIONS ARE BADLY HIT BY INFLATION.
- 4. SCIENCE DIVISION DASYG HEMILY SUGGESTS THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS WOULD PROBABLY BE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING AND COMMENTING ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION: THE STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY (OSTP), IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT; DR. E.G. KOVACH STIA/NSF; DR. FRED SEITZ, PRESIDENT OF ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY; AND DR. EUGENE SKOLNIKOFF, CENTER FOR INTERNATION STUDIES, MIT. WE UNDERSTAND SKOLNIKOFF IS WORKING PART TIME AT OSTP IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE ADVISER, FRANK PRESS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: AS INDICATED IN PARAGRAPHS 2, 3, 4 ABOVE. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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